

THE KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT

EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS



SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO NONE.

OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.

VOL. XXIV, No. 21

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 1918.

WHOLE NUMBER 1217

BRIG. GEN. W. A. WHITE



Brig. Gen. W. A. White, the head of the British recruiting mission in the United States, whose efficient direction of the campaign for men for the British fighting forces has resulted in the enlistment of more than 20,000.

GUN BASE IN FRANCE

Plant Will Cost \$25,000,000 and Employ 16,450.

United States Pushes Work on Big Establishment to Keep American Armies Equipped.

Washington, March 6.—Building a \$25,000,000 ordnance base in France which will include about twenty large storehouses, 12 shop buildings, 100 smaller shops and magazines and machine tool equipment, was announced by the war department.

The project includes a gun repair plant, equipped to repair over 800 guns a month; a carriage repair plant of larger capacity; a motor vehicle repair plant, capable of overhauling more than 1,200 vehicles a month; a small arms repair plant with a capacity for repair of approximately 58,000 small arms and machine guns a month; a shop for the repair of horse and infantry equipment and reloading plant capable of reloading about 100,000 artillery cartridge cases a day.

Construction was begun several weeks ago after a great part of the construction material and equipment had arrived in France. Practically all of the essential materials have been contracted for and delivery has been expedited by priority orders.

Maintenance of the ordnance base will require about 45 officers and 16,000 men.

PACKERS GIVEN A RESPITE

Investigations by Federal Trade Commission at Chicago Have Been Indefinitely Postponed.

Chicago, March 6.—Middle Western packers won a temporary respite from investigations being conducted by the federal trade commission when it was announced that the inquiry here had been indefinitely postponed pending the decision of the United States circuit court of appeals on the legality of the search warrants upon which papers in the vaults of Henry Veeder, counsel for Swift & Co., were seized. Halting of the inquiry is believed to indicate that further evidence which Francis J. Heney, attorney for the trade commission, wishes to present is tied up by the fight on the Veeder search warrant.

District Attorney Reveals Suicide.

New York.—Gambling losses of \$25,400 at chemin de fer preceded the attempt of Captain Nicholas Iseguine, Russian army officer, to take his life here some time ago. This was brought out at District Attorney Swann's vice gambling inquiry when Captain Iseguine was called to the stand as a witness.

Mexican Service Badge.

Washington.—Insurance of a Mexican service badge was announced by the War Department for all officers and enlisted men who served in Mexico as members of the Vera Cruz expedition, as members of the punitive or other expeditions, those who participated in engagements in which there were casualties to United States troops and members of the Mexican border patrol in proximity to engagements resulting in casualties among their units.

BELIEVE ALLIES IN AGREEMENT

News Agency Has Report That Japan Will Be Allowed to Enter Siberia.

COMPACT DENIED BY LEWIS

Says United States Has Made No Arrangement With the Eastern Island Empire to Reward Her for Her Services in Crisis.

Paris, France, March 6.—Following a meeting of the foreign affairs committee of the chamber of deputies the committee, as a matter of course, declined to make known the terms of a statement by M. Pichon. They nevertheless, says the Havas News agency's report of the meeting, allowed it to be understood that it now seems certain that all the allies are in agreement to leave to Japan the task of intervening in Manchuria and Siberia.

Japan Takes Serious View.

Tokyo, Japan, Saturday, March 2 (via Shanghai and London).—The Russian situation is completely absorbing the press and the public. There have been frequent meetings of the Japanese cabinet at which, doubtless, the entire question was considered most carefully with full realization of the serious nature of the responsibilities involved.

No Arrangement With Japan.

Washington, March 6.—Senator J. Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, the Democratic whip, informed the senate that no compact or understanding of any nature has been entered into by the United States with Japan regarding Siberia.

He denied with emphasis that reports that negotiations were pending to allow Japan a free hand in the Philippines and a naval base on the Mexican west coast in return for her services in Russia.

"Whatever Japan is doing in relation to the war is in pursuit of her compact with Great Britain," said Senator Lewis.

Washington Without Information.

Washington, March 6.—The state department was without any additional reports from Russia today, and had been unable to secure any details of the reported destruction of bridges along the lines of the Siberian railway. A brief dispatch from Consul Summers, at Moscow, reported the arrival there of a number of Y. M. C. A. workers from Kiev.

Look for Some Action.

Washington, March 6.—Although the attitude of the American government toward the proposed step has not been announced, military action by Japan to counteract German influence in eastern Siberia and protect war stores at Vladivostok is believed to be imminent. Diplomats here are inclined to the view that the Japanese probably would move quickly to meet emergency conditions, leaving determination of the scope and purposes of the enterprise to pending negotiations for an understanding with the United States and the allies.

BURNING OIL FOR GERMANS

Ohio Experimenters Said to Have Found New Method of Hurling Fire at the Enemy.

Marietta, O., March 6.—Following the periments of several months oil men in the local fields have perfected a new method of throwing burning oil which optimists say will literally permit the United States to "burn its way to Berlin."

The process will be offered the government within a short time.

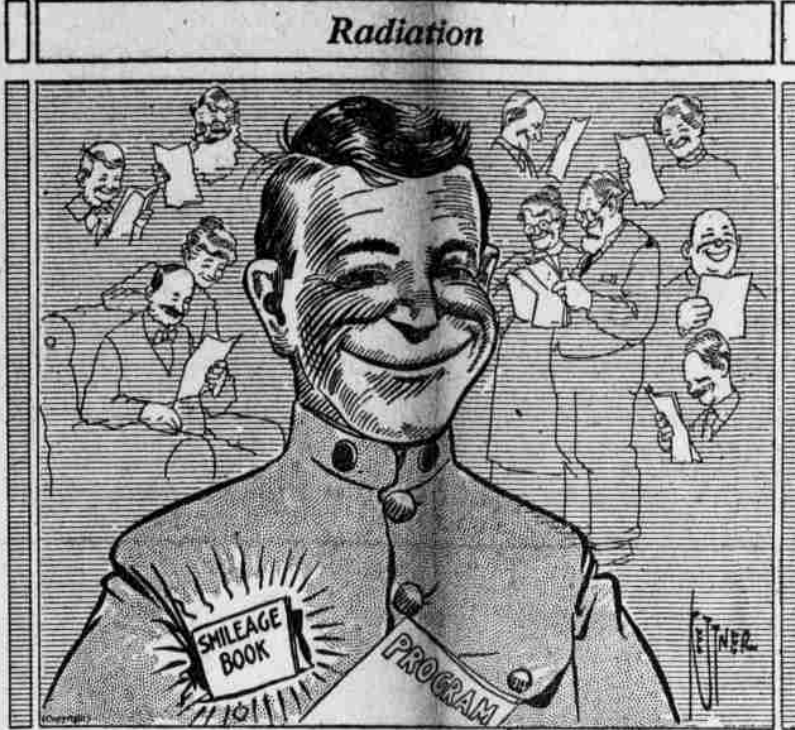
The idea, as near as can be learned, is to spray the oil into the enemy trenches in much the same fashion as liquid fire is used, though the results are not nearly so horrible.

An intense heat, coupled with dense smoke and a gas which will overcome any living thing in its path, is the real feature of the new medicine for kaiserism, according to those who have witnessed the experiments.

PLANNING TO SAVE POTATOES

Session of Food Administrator's From Many States Discusses the Problem at Chicago Session.

Chicago, March 6.—Plans to save millions of bushels of potatoes now in the hands of farmers of the middle West were discussed here at a session of food administrators from Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana and Minnesota with Harry A. Wheeler, administrator of Illinois. An effort will be made to stimulate the movement of potatoes. Because of the big supply on hand, due to transportation difficulties, it is believed that potatoes will be cheap this summer.



BENEFIT TO GO TO CONSUMER

OF ANY SPECIAL ALLOWANCE MADE BY REFINERS TO DISTRIBUTORS.

Distributor, 'Tis Said, Is Receiving "Extras" to Cover Advertising and "Boosts" By Salesmen—Buying Power of Dollar Has "Shrunk."

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Washington.—Consumers of sugar must be given the benefit of any special allowance made by refiners to distributors, the Food Administration announced, in calling attention to its recent statements discountenancing sales of sugar by wholesalers and jobbers at an advance over delivered cost of more than 15 cents to 25 cents a hundred pounds. The administration said it had received reports that refiners were offering a special allowance or extra compensation to distributors by reason of special services, said to have been performed by distributors' salesmen, or as an equivalent of advertising expenses.

The first definite report to the Food Administration of a saving of ammonia has been made by the Knickerbocker Ice Company, of New York. In December, January and February it curtailed its consumption more than 60 per cent, saving a total of 22,864 pounds.

"If the experience of the Knickerbocker Co. is typical of the industry," a Food Administration statement said, "the actual needs of the country may be met without undue curtailment of ice consumption or of refrigeration."

The Administration Announced Recently That There Must Be a Sharp Curtailment in the Use of Ammonia in Commercial Manufacture to Meet the Demand for the Commodity in the Making of Munitions of War.

The high cost of living in the national capital has not been due entirely to the war, as statistics compiled by the Department of Labor show that the food buying power of a dollar has been shrinking for 10 years in Washington. A dollar now will buy only as much flour as 50 cents would 10 years ago. A dollar's worth of corn meal could have been bought for 34 cents, and a dollar now is equal to 40 cents in the purchase of eggs. The amount of sirloin steak which a dollar will buy has decreased from 5.2 pounds to 2.7 pounds, pork chops from 6.3 pounds to 2.6 pounds; bacon, sliced, from 5.3 pounds to 2.0 pounds; ham, sliced, from 4.4 pounds to 2.1 pounds; lard, from 7.3 pounds to 3.0 pounds; hams, from 5.6 pounds to 2.9 pounds; butter, 2.7 pounds to 1.7 pounds; milk, a quart, 12.4 quarts to 7.1 quarts; potatoes, from 4.3 pecks to 1.9 pecks; sugar, from 18.2 pounds to 10.4 pounds.

Arranging for Next Draft.

Washington, March 6.—Announcement of the date of the next draft is imminent. The best opinion is that the first of the men will move to camp in April. Publication of the announcement is held up for action by congress on pending amendments to the selective service act.

MAKE REPORT ON BAER BILL

Measure Providing for Sale to Farmers of Feeds and Seeds Will Be Pushed in the House.

Washington, March 6.—The Baer bill, appropriating \$10,000,000 for the sale to farmers on credit of feeds and seeds and for the mobilization of agricultural labor, was favorably reported to the house by the agricultural committee. Chairman Lever will seek a special rule to have the bill considered immediately so that its provisions may be put into effect before planting season begins.

Radiation

LABOR MAY BE CONSCRIPTED

Measure Giving the President Increased Power Has Been Favorably Reported to the House.

Washington, March 6.—Conscription of labor for farms, shipyards and munitions factories drew nearer this afternoon when the military affairs committee favorably reported to the house a bill giving the president power to take from any class of draft registrants, workers needed for industries connected with the national defense.

The bill also provides that the men to be called in the second draft should be taken from the first class under the questionnaire classification and that district quotas shall be allotted on a basis of the number of men in Class 1.

FIRE LAID TO INCENDIARY

Destruction of Turney Wagon Works, Des Moines, Ia., Believed Act of an Alien Enemy.

Des Moines, Ia., March 6.—Fire, believed to have been started by an enemy who had advance information, that the firm soon was to begin work on extensive government contracts, destroyed the plant of the Turney wagon works here. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

STOCK OF MONEY INCREASED

Per Capita Distribution in the United States Is Announced by the Treasury Department.

Washington, March 6.—The per capita distribution of money in the United States March 1 was \$48.37, the treasury department announced. On that day the total stock of money was \$6,651,548,056, an increase of over a billion dollars since the country entered the war. When the United States declared war the per capita distribution was \$45.34.

U-boat Menaces Aid to Steamer.

London.—The Norwegian steamer Harna, of 1,150 tons gross, has been torpedoed without warning. She sank in less than one minute. The crew of 18 had no time to launch a boat and jumped into the sea. The captain and five survivors were landed here. The captain of the Harna fears the remainder of the crew were drowned. With five companions Captain Hermansen spent a terrible night on a raft, exposed to intense cold. They found an upturned lifeboat at dawn and managed to right her. They had drifted about for 50 hours, when rescued by an American destroyer. One man died in delirium; the feet of the others were frozen. The Germans watched the men struggling in the icy water, said Captain Hermansen, but did not offer any help.

Charged With Embezzlement.

Washington.—Charged with embezzlement of several million dollars from the French Government in dealings with American motor truck manufacturers, Frank J. Goldsoll, wealthy retired French soldier, is held in jail here awaiting extradition proceedings, which will begin March 20. Goldsoll is accused by the French Embassy of having appropriated to his own use huge commissions on war contracts which he was sent to the United States to execute for his Government. Preliminary arrangements for his release in custody of a marshal were held up by order of United States Commissioner Hitt, and Goldsoll was remanded to jail.

Knoxville.—A two days' conference of numerous national, state and county road officials was held at the University of Tennessee.

Nashville.—Orders for the construction of a depot at Union City within the course of the ensuing 90 days was ordered by the Tennessee Railroad Commission.

Knoxville.—East Tennessee poultry dealers have been especially hard hit by the national food administration's order that no hens shall be purchased until the first of May.

FRANCE HONORS SIX AMERICANS

Names of the Soldiers Who Were Decorated by Premier Clemenceau.

TWO OFFICERS AMONG THEM

Correspondent Who Visited the Field of Battle Saw Evidence of Hot Fighting—German Gunfire Evidently Accurate.

With the American Army in France, March 6.—The names of six Americans decorated by Premier Clemenceau for their bravery in the fight with picked German raiders north of Toul on Friday morning were given out for publication by the censor today. They are: William Coleman of Charleston, Buddy Pittman of Brooklyn, Joseph C. Canby of Chicago, David Alvan Smiley of St. Louis, William E. Norton of Jonesville and Patrick of Detroit. Through an error in cable transmission, Patrick's full name was not given.

Two are lieutenants, two others sergeants, and the remaining two are privates.

Correspondent on Battlefield.

On Monday morning I visited the scene of Friday's fight. A hard snowstorm was raging and many of the marks of the struggle were obscured, but at the same time the snow afforded us protection from the Germans. The Boches are always watchful and ready in clear weather for sniping operations, machine-gun firing and the use of trench mortars.

The scene of the struggle was clearly defined by unmistakable evidences of a concentrated bombardment. The shell craters, overlapping each other, pitted the ground like a photograph of the moon's surface. Three of them, 100 to 150 feet deep, were already partly filled with water from melting snow.

The trench lines were badly blasted and it was nearly impossible to pick it out at places. The dugouts were demolished by direct hits from shells of big caliber, probably ten inches.

Enemy's Fire Accurate.

A German battery recently spotted this sector with disconcerting accuracy. Many dugouts were unsighted, although several were caved in when shells or minnenwerfers exploded near by, casting up tons of earth.

Many trees were uprooted or blasted as though struck by a cyclone. Equipment was scattered everywhere, although much of it was hidden by the snow.

Several concrete machine gun emplacements of the "pill-box" style weathered the hurricane of fire, and ammunition dugouts escaped also.

Soldiers with rifles at hand, their heads protected by steel helmets, and gas masks strapped to their chests, worked with picks and shovels reorganizing the positions. Wood for the construction of duckboards, concrete and rails of steels were brought up to re-enforce and strengthen the works.

Occupied Old Trench.

There was one long-disused trench, littered with debris, where a number of soldiers took refuge from the shells to organize their resistance and counter-attack. It was littered with cartridge clips, torn gas masks and twisted helmets. Nearly all the German equipment had been carried off for souvenirs.

Through the snow we could see great gaps torn in the barbed wire and holes were the deeply planted posts had been torn by the German guns and "hell boxes." Rewiring was accomplished with the greatest difficulty, owing to the activity of the German machine gunners.

Found Many German Dead.

France, March 5.—More than forty-five German dead, all of whom had been killed in the German attack against the American salient north-west of Toul on Friday morning, were counted in the American entanglements and in "No Man's Land" today. The Germans had been shot down while retreating to their own lines, after being routed by the American soldiers. German parties tried to approach to carry off the corpses, but were driven off by machine gun fire.

Arrangements for Burials.

The Americans plan to bury all the dead in their own territory. It is now learned that the German dead left in the American trenches were buried separately from the Americans. The simplest military ceremonies marked the interment. Investigation showed that one German had been bayoneted to death, but the American who killed him evidently was killed himself, as none of the men alive claim to have done it.

Another German had been killed by a hand grenade. The balance had been slain with rifles or automatic pistols.

AUGUST PHILLIPS



August Phillips, new minister from the Netherlands to the United States. He was accompanied to Washington by Mrs. Phillips, their four grown daughters and a son.

HIGH COURT RULINGS

Firm Wins Case of Importance in Patented Goods.

Tribunal Rules Patentes Cannot Reserve Right to Fix Price at Which Article Is to Be Resold.

Washington, March 6.—Decrees denying the right of a patentee under the patent laws to control the resale of an article, were entered by the Supreme court.

A patentee, the court held, cannot in selling his article to another, reserve the right by contract to fix the price at which it is later to be resold.

This interpretation of the patent laws was made by the court in answering questions certified by the lower courts in injunction proceedings restraining the Boston store of Chicago from selling records, in violation of a contract made with the American Graphophone company, for less than official list prices.

The opinion is of vital importance, affecting not only 5,000 dealers in graphophone records, bound by similar contracts, but also thousands of dealers in many other articles, the retail prices of which are fixed by the manufacturers.

The "call rule" for grain "to arrive," established in 1906 by the Chicago board of trade, was held by the Supreme court not to be in restraint of trade under the antitrust law.

Injunctions issued by Federal District Judge Landis restraining the rule's operation were set aside.

Board of trade officials contended the rule increased instead of decreased competition and prevented monopoly, but it was rescinded after the government's suit was filed in 1913.

Federal court decrees dismissing injunction proceedings to restrain Akron, O., from constructing a dam and taking water from the Cuyahoga river were sustained by the Supreme court.

Denial that injunctions restraining union miners' officials from organizing employees of the Hinchman Coal and Coke company in West Virginia had been violated was made in the Supreme court in briefs filed by President Frank J. Hayes and other officials of the United Mine Workers of America.

Miners' officials claim that if there was a falling-off in the production of the Hinchman mines it was not due to labor troubles.

Federal courts have no jurisdiction over bribery at general elections, the Supreme court decided in upholding decrees sustaining demerits to indictments in the Cincinnati election fraud cases.

Arkansas, in the Supreme court today, in effect won its proceedings to determine the boundary line between that state and Tennessee.

Grant to Widow of General Maude.

London, March 6.—The house of commons voted \$125,000 to the widow of Maj. Gen. Frederick Stanley Maude, commander of the British expedition on the Tigris front, whose death occurred last November.

Sunday was comparatively quiet, the artillery duel being about one-tenth as violent as on the preceding day. Observers noted a movement of German artillery.

The weather cleared enabling air planes to operate during the afternoon for the first time in several days.

Parliament Meets March 18.

Ottawa, Ont., March 6.—The first session of parliament under the new government has been called for Monday, March 18.